

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF RITA SEMEL'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a visionary and inspiring leader, my longtime friend Rita Semel, as she recently celebrated her 100th birthday. Beloved in the Bay Area and beyond, Rita has torn down barriers to peace and brought communities together—here at home and around the world.

Personally, it has been a great privilege to have had a front row seat to Rita's greatness for many decades. Deeply committed to her faith and driven by her values, every day she lives out the spirit of *tikkun olam*, 'to heal the world'—which she teaches us is not just a gentle phrase, but a clarion call to action.

Born a New Yorker, but forged into a true San Franciscan by more than eight decades in the Bay Area, Rita has long seen the world not as it is but as it could be—and has labored tirelessly to make real her inspiring vision. At a time when few women could be found in the workplace, she helped break barriers by serving as a reporter at the San Francisco Chronicle during World War II and freelancing for nonprofits as a working mother.

San Franciscans are especially grateful for her decades of leadership of the San Francisco Interfaith Council, which she helped establish in the wake of the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake to bring our community together. Under her leadership, the Council has been a force for justice and opportunity and has improved countless lives: from offering emergency shelter in the winter for people experiencing homelessness to fostering interreligious understanding to creating a chaplaincy program at the Youth Guidance Center, and so much more.

That this revered Bay Area institution, three decades later, continues to unite San Franciscans across races, religions and economic backgrounds is a testament to her unyielding belief that we are always more powerful together than we could ever be alone.

As she advanced justice at home, Rita has also brought boundless energy and a fierce spirit to her work building a world without poverty, violence or discrimination. All Americans can be proud of her service representing our nation to the world as a delegate to two United Nations World Conferences on Women. And as a longtime Jewish activist, she was an early and vocal supporter of the state in Israel—and has been an essential force in advancing a safer, fairer future for Jewish people around the world.

All who have had the high honor of working alongside Rita know that she never takes no for an answer—and it is best to save time and just agree with her right from the start. For her relentless work, she has been recognized with many accolades, including Woman of the Year by the California State Assembly, the San

Francisco Foundation's Community Leadership Award and the Rosa Parks Award from Women in Community Service. Most importantly, however, her impact is measured by the indelible mark she leaves on the lives of her loved ones, her many friends and all fortunate enough to know her.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I extend the warm greetings of the Congress to the extraordinary Rita Semel as she and her loved ones celebrate her century on this earth—and offer best wishes for happy and healthy years to come.

IN HONOR OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude and admiration for the healthcare workers in Alabama's 4th Congressional District, Northern Alabama, and our entire state. We have all heard stories about individuals in the healthcare field who have gone beyond the call of duty during the Coronavirus pandemic. From all across my district, and throughout our state, constituents have nominated some amazing medical workers, and it is my privilege to honor three of these individuals today.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen heroic work done to fight the virus on the front lines. Doctors, nurses, first responders, and everyone who has worked tirelessly in the medical field during this past year deserve all the thanks we can give them. They have kept us safe and healthy in a time when we needed it most.

Over the past two years I have visited hospitals, talked with those on the front lines of the fight, and visited vaccine clinics. I have been overwhelmed by the outstanding work being done each and every day. It has been a constant battle for these healthcare heroes, but they have risen to the task every step of the way. I have no doubt in my mind that these amazing men and women have made a big difference in Alabama's bout with COVID-19.

It is for those reasons, and so many more, that I want to honor the healthcare heroes. They deserve nothing less. Thanks to the submissions from my constituents in my district, I include in the RECORD the names of three healthcare heroes. When history looks upon this trying time in our country, they will find the names of these Alabamians who courageously took on the fight to keep the rest of us safe.

With my utmost gratitude, may the legacy of these three healthcare heroes live on well into the future.

Dr. Heather L. Haley, who for more than seventeen years has served the Huntsville community by providing a personal touch to her patients and never stopped caring for

them despite the personal risk caused by COVID-19.

Dr. Joe T. Sharp, who for over forty-three years has selflessly cared for others and excelled at communicating medical matters to each of his patients.

Dr. Michael Cantrell, an orthopedic surgeon in Huntsville who serves both his community and his country at the highest levels of medical excellence.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LE MOYNE COLLEGE

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Le Moyne College in Syracuse, New York as the college celebrates its 75th Anniversary. Since its founding, Le Moyne College has provided students with a renowned Jesuit education, preparing thousands of young men and women to reach great successes and live generously.

True to the intellectual and religious tradition it was founded on, for over seven decades Le Moyne has provided its undergraduate students and graduate students with a well-rounded, liberal arts education. Equipped with a Le Moyne education, alumni from the college have become leaders across a wide range of sectors including business, medicine, government, and the arts and sciences. Today, Le Moyne has grown dramatically. It greatly expanded its academic programs and has a sprawling campus that boasts five academic buildings and 15 residential buildings, as well as a chapel, library, performing arts center, Jesuit residence, plaza and athletic facilities.

While the school has remained committed to its core values, Le Moyne has always prided itself on being a trailblazer for progress. At the time of its founding in 1946, Le Moyne was the first Jesuit college in the United States to open as a coeducational institutional. And in 2014, Linda LeMura was named the college's 14th president, making her the first female layperson to lead a Jesuit institution in the United States. Under her leadership, President LeMura has raised the college's profile, prioritized inclusivity, and worked to foster an environment where Le Moyne students and faculty can learn and grow. Notably, during the pandemic, President LeMura took an unusual step to limit the spread of COVID-19 amongst the school's population and highlight the importance of being a thoughtful steward of the community by moving into a neighborhood popular with students living off-campus. For several months, LeMura became a friendly face in the neighborhood. She greeted students living nearby on her daily walks, helped them keep their lawns free of trash and debris, and reprimanded those holding gatherings that could spread the virus.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In 2016, the college adopted the slogan 'Greatness Meets Goodness' to highlight the college's lasting commitment to helping students reach heights in their career, while emphasizing the importance of integrity and compassion for all people. Le Moyne consistently encourages students to put Jesuit values in action by providing volunteer opportunities within Central New York and around the world, and harboring extensive networks at local nonprofits, shelters, kitchens, and schools. In 2020, Le Moyne launched its Erie 21 program, which helps veterans, immigrants, refugees, the underemployed and unemployed obtain internships and software development jobs with local employers by providing students with technical and computer coding skills. The impact Le Moyne students have had in our Central New York community and around the world is both far-reaching and impactful. It is exemplified by alumni like Jeanette Epps, the first Black female astronaut to serve as a crewmember on the International Space Station, who is conducting research that will benefit all of mankind. And Andrew Lunetta, who found his passion helping homeless individuals and families in Central New York while at Le Moyne, and has since founded Tiny Home For Good, a nonprofit that builds safe and affordable housing for those less fortunate.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the 75th Anniversary of Le Moyne College. Over the past 75 years, the College has prepared thousands of students to become successful leaders in their careers and carry themselves with integrity. Le Moyne has been a cherished part of our community and I'm excited to see what the future holds for the college.

IN RECOGNITION OF UNCLE MIKE'S
BAKE SHOPPE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 20th anniversary of the Grand Opening of Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe. For over 20 years, Mike and Mary Vande Walle and the Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe team have provided exceptional service and award-winning baked goods for people throughout the State of Wisconsin.

Starting from humble beginnings, Uncle Mike's opened their first store location in the City of De Pere on October 5 of 2001 and after three years of operation they quickly ran out of space. This gave the Vande Walle's the opportunity to open their second location in the Village of Suamico in 2004. As business continued to boom, Uncle Mike's opened a third location in the City of Green Bay in 2018 and purchased a production facility in Northeast Wisconsin that produces baked goods for each of their locations. Given the Uncle Mike's team's commitment to providing exceptional customer service and the high demand for their products, pop-up shops in Appleton and Milwaukee were constructed for customers to purchase some of the most popular items on the menu. I commend the dedication and hard work that has resulted in Uncle Mike's continued growth and success for over 20 years.

Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe has been the recipient of over 100 awards in the baking in-

dustry for its excellence in baking and cake decorating. Most notably in 2014, Uncle Mike's won Best Kringle in North America for their world-famous sea salt caramel pecan kringle. Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe has grown to be one of the most popular and recognizable bakeries in Wisconsin due to its exceptional customer service, friendly staff, and high-quality products. Uncle Mike's is also known for their unwavering support of the surrounding communities through offering fundraisers to local school districts and supplying fresh-baked cream puffs for the Denmark FFA booth at the Brown County Fair. Since the loss of Uncle Mike in 2020, his spirit has continued to live on through his family where they have carried on his love for baking. As third-generation bakers, Mike and Mary Vande Walle made it their mission to provide quality products through old-fashioned baking methods with high-quality ingredients. Throughout the years, Mike and Mary passed down their expertise in old-fashioned baking to their children, Brittini and Nathan, so that they could continue the exceptional baking traditions that began in 1974 with Don and Norma Vande Walle at Mehlberg's Bakery in Shawano.

I Invite all members of this body to join me in celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe. I extend my sincerest congratulations to the Uncle Mike's team on this remarkable milestone and wish them success for many more years to follow. Uncle Mike's Bake Shoppe is a wonderful business in Northeast Wisconsin and is deserving of the highest degree of recognition.

CONGRATULATING MIKE HOFFMAN
ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 27
YEARS AT WNDU

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mike Hoffman and congratulate him on a remarkable 27-year career at WNDU and 40 years in the meteorology field. As he prepares to retire, it is my privilege to honor Mike's steadfast dedication to his work and thank him for his decades of service to Michiana communities.

A lifelong Hoosier, Mike has been a constant and trusted presence as the WNDU meteorologist. Every day, Indiana families tune in for Mike's thoughtful analysis and reporting on our region's constantly evolving weather. For more than 20 years in our truly four-season climate, our community has trusted Mike to shoot straight and let us know what to expect from snow to rain to ice and extreme temperatures.

Generations of WNDU viewers have gotten to know Mike as he delivers the local weather report each night, as well as the AgDay and US Farm Report weather segments that are crucial for our hardworking Hoosier farmers. Local families count on Mike to keep them updated on dangerous storms, and Hoosier kids always tune into Mike's reports as they eagerly anticipate snow days.

For those who know Mike, it is obvious that both his Indiana roots and his commitment to our community run deep. Mike's journalism career commenced in his hometown of Delphi,

and although he will soon give his final WNDU weather report, his retirement is far from the end of this story.

On and off the air, Mike has made northern Indiana safer, better informed, and more resilient. As an active community member, he always finds ways to serve his neighbors and give back to the region he proudly calls home.

As Mike prepares to sign off and begin a new chapter, I am grateful to this outstanding Hoosier for his work as a meteorologist, as well as for the example he has modeled for aspiring journalists and every young Hoosier learning to give back and build a brighter future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring WNDU's Mike Hoffman for his exceptional character, guidance, and kindness that has made an indelible legacy in our community and beyond.

CONGRATULATING THE ZUNI
CROSS COUNTRY GIRLS TEAM

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Zuni Cross-Country Girls Team for winning the District Championships in 2021. Looking through all of the school's running records, it's clearly an amazing community. These runners continue to be a shining example of what we women are capable of.

It is even more remarkable that their success happened during a pandemic that has devastated our indigenous communities. They still delivered and lived up to expectations making their village proud. The team is a gift to the community.

I extend my warmest wishes for the future of the village. If it's in this team's hands, I'm sure Zuni will continue to thrive.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MS.
BETH SHERMAN

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA—

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Beth Sherman for her dedicated service to LaGrange County, Indiana. Residents of LaGrange County owe a debt of gratitude to Beth for her leadership at the LaGrange County Chamber of Commerce.

Beth joined the chamber in 2006, and soon after became its executive director, a position in which she served for 12 years. Under her leadership, the chamber's membership doubled, and business in the county blossomed. The chamber's membership stands at more than 400 businesses today, up from the 146 members in 2006 when Beth started. The county's unemployment rate is roughly half that of the national average, and future job growth over the next ten years is predicted to be 47.4 percent, considerably higher than the US average of 33.5 percent. These benchmarks, and others, can be attributed in large measure to Beth.